

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.....09/650,712
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First Named Inventor.....Rico Mariani
Assignee.....Microsoft Corporation
Group Art Unit.....2131
Examiner.....SHIN HON CHEN
Attorney's Docket No.....MS1-0579US
Title.....Systems and Methods for Limiting Access to
Potentially Dangerous Code

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED
12/22/2006**

To: Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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From: Kayla D. Brant (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)
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Brief Summary of Selected Substantive Portions of this Response

[0001] In a telephone discussion (on Feb 20, 2007), the difference between a digital signature associated with an ActiveX™ control and a digital signature associated with a web page were discussed. A digital signature associated with a control object may be used to verify the authenticity of the control object, but does not prevent a second web page from maliciously accessing the control object that was previously downloaded to a client device by a first web page. By associating a digital signature with a web page that includes code to invoke a control object, a

client device can then verify the authenticity of the web page before allowing the web page to invoke the control object. While the control object itself may be digitally signed, the signature associated with the control object does not provide a way to verify the authenticity of the web page invoking the control object. Examiner Chen agreed that the cited art does not appear to describe associating a digital signature with a web page that includes code to invoke a control object, but that does not include the control object. We also discussed the possibility that the cited art may not describe signing a web page in response to receiving a request for the web page. In order to expedite prosecution, the claims are being amended based on these differences.